

No. 8.

Copy of a LETTER from *B. Hare Esq.* to *Sir J. H. Pelly, Bart.*

No. 8.
B. Hare Esq. to
Sir J. H. Pelly,
Bart.
25 February 1847.

Sir,

Downing-street, 25 February 1848.

I am directed to remind you of your letter of the 5th March 1847, submitting, for Lord Grey's consideration, an application on the part of the Hudson's Bay Company for a grant of all the territories belonging to the Crown which are situated to the north and west of Rupert's Land.

In an interview which Earl Grey had with you subsequently to that application, you were informed that the proposal you had made was too extensive for Her Majesty's Government to entertain.

I am now directed by his Lordship to state, that if you are prepared to submit another scheme which shall be more limited and definite in its object, and yet embrace a plan for the colonization and government of Vancouver's Island, Her Majesty's Government will be ready to give their immediate and attentive consideration to such proposal. Assuming that in any negotiation which may take place on this subject, the value of the coal at Vancouver's Island will necessarily form a material consideration on the part of the Hudson's Bay Company, Lord Grey directs me to send you the copy of an agreement recently entered into with Mr. Wise, from which you will learn the terms on which the Government have granted a lease to that gentleman of the coal at Labuan, and which may possibly serve as a guide in any proposal which the Company may think proper to make for working the coal at Vancouver's Island.

I have, &c.

(signed) *B. Hare*

Enclosure to agreement
entered into with
Mr. Wise Esq. Papers
relating to the Hudson's
Bay Company, Vol. 10, p. 10.
25 Feb. 1847, No. 8.

No. 9.

Copy of a LETTER from *Sir J. H. Pelly, Bart.* to *Earl Grey*.

No. 9.
Sir J. H. Pelly,
Bart. to
Earl Grey.
4 March 1848.

My Lord

Hudson's Bay House, 4 March 1848.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from Mr. Hare, dated February 25, in which he states that he has received from the Earl of my letter of March 5, 1847, in which I submitted for your Lordship's consideration an application on the part of the Hudson's Bay Company, for a grant of all the territories belonging to the Crown which are situated to the north and west of Rupert's Land.

As I have stated in the interview which I had with your Lordship, on the 10th of March, I was informed that the proposal I had made was too extensive for Her Majesty's Government to entertain.

In the reply to which I then made, your Lordship did not appear to me to express himself decidedly as to lead me to believe that Her Majesty's Government had no longer their minds on the subject, and therefore, I had not intended to trouble you with my Lordship's answer to my second letter of the 10th of March. I regret this misapprehension, and shall now proceed to the consideration of the report of Mr. Hare's letter, which informs me, in which he says that he has directed by you to help to state that, as I am prepared to submit another scheme, which shall be more limited and definite in its object, and yet embrace a plan for the colonization and government of Vancouver's Island, Her Majesty's Government will be ready to give their immediate and attentive consideration to such proposal.

As far as the Hudson's Bay Company are concerned, all that they would require would be a grant of lands which I had received in my letter to your Lordship of the 7th of September 1846. To such a grant Mr. Hare's letter of the 11th of December 1847, your Lordship was obliged to assent, and, if, on Her Majesty's Government, provided Her Majesty's Attorney General should be of opinion that the acceptance of the Company's proposal was consistent with their charter.

The opinion of the Attorney General in the affirmative was given on the 10th of January 1847, and on the 2d February I received from Mr. Hare's letter, that your Lordship was then "ready to receive the Company's proposal for a grant of the lands which the Company would desire."

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